

CARL VINSON BATTLE GROUP

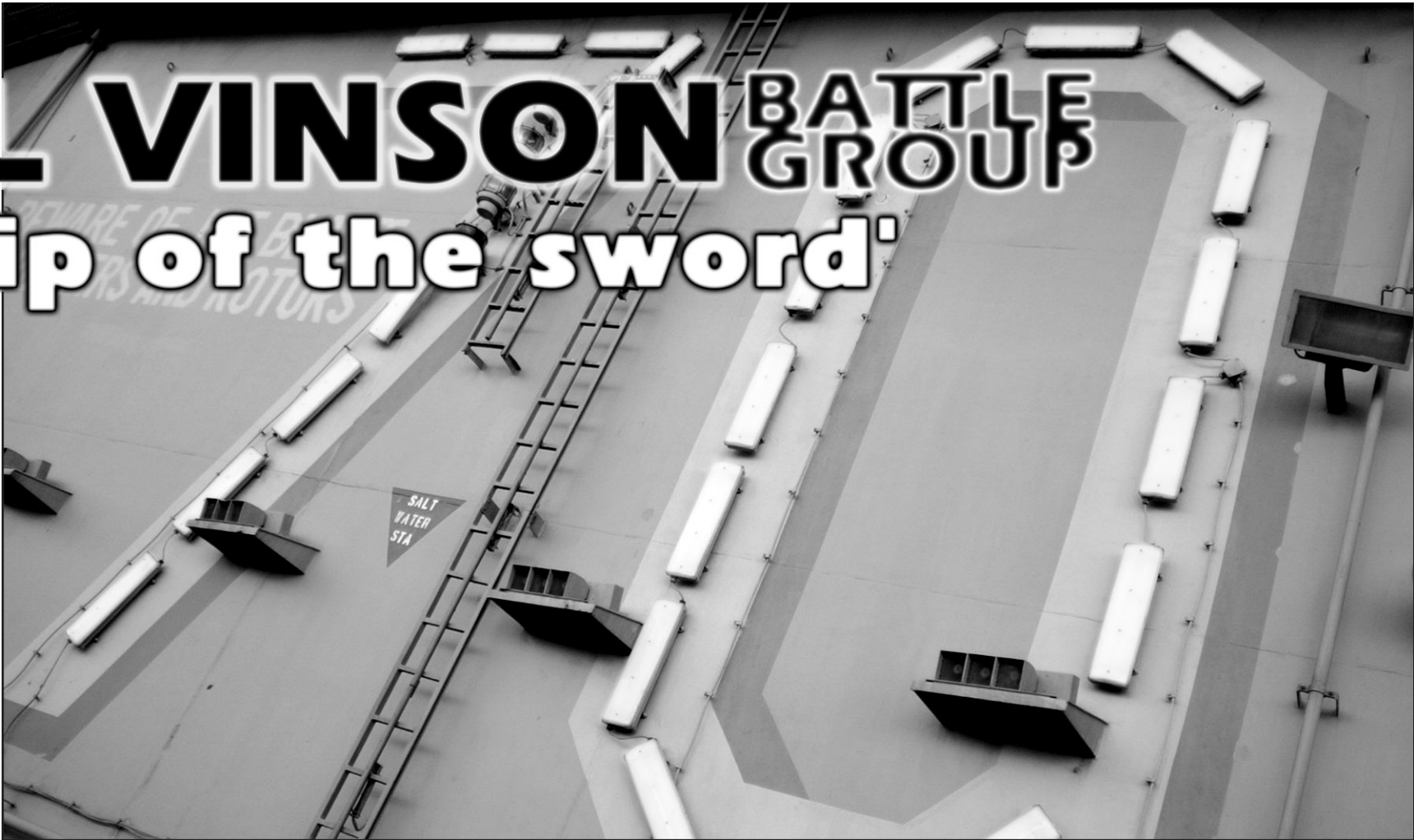
'The tip of the sword'

In mid October, ABC News reporter Jeffrey Kofman referred to USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) as 'the tip of the sword' of the American response to the attacks suffered Sept. 11, 2001.

While USS Carl Vinson was on what was believed to be a routine six-month deployment, tragedy fell upon America and war was declared.

The carrier and its crew found themselves doing more than patrolling the world's waters but rather fighting for the nation they swore to defend.

USS Carl Vinson pulled into Pearl Harbor Tuesday morning as the ship heads back to its homeport of Bremerton, Wash.



J03 Tim Walsh photo

USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) displays its illuminated hull number on either side of the ship's island.



J02 Jim Williams photo

The fast combat support ship USS Sacramento (AOE 1) lies moored next to USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) Wednesday morning in Naval Station Pearl Harbor.



J03 Tim Walsh photo

A view of Carl Vinson's superstructure from the ship's flight deck.



J03 Tim Walsh photo

A lieutenant from USS Carl Vinson is greeted by his friend Tuesday after the carrier pulled into Pearl Harbor while on its way back to its homeport of Bremerton, Wash.

